

REMARKS

Claims 1-2, 10-13, 15-18, and 20 are pending in this application after this Amendment; claims 1, 11, and 16 being independent. In light of the remarks contained herein, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejections.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11-13, 15-18, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Watanabe et al.* (USP 5,091,787) and rejected claims 3, 6, 9, 14, and 19 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over *Watanabe et al.* in view of *Matsumoto* (JP 02-077815). Applicant respectfully traverses these rejections.

Claim Rejections - 35 U.S.C. § 102

The Examiner rejected claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 8, 10, 11-13, 15-18, and 20 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by *Watanabe et al.* By this Amendment, Applicant has amended claims 1, 10, 11, 13, 15, 16, 18, and 20 to more appropriately recite the present invention. It is respectfully submitted that these amendments are being made without conceding the propriety of the Examiner's rejection, but merely to timely advance the prosecution of the present invention.

With regard to claim 1, claim 1 has been amended to recite; *inter alia*, an electronic camera comprising a controller for performing suspension of a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects that the lid is opened while the master switch is on, and for performing resumption of the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects that the lid is closed during the suspension of the power supply.

It is respectfully submitted that *Watanabe et al.* discloses a memory cartridge-connectable electronic device such as an electronic still video camera. *Watanabe et al.* further discloses the connection sensing circuit 60 is for sensing that the memory cartridge 20 has been connected to the camera 10 by the connector portion 18 included in connector 17. When connection is sensed, the circuit 60 outputs a signal to this effect to the power supply circuit 50. (Col. 11, line 65 - col. 12, line 2).

However, *Watanabe et al.* fails to disclose a controller for performing suspension of a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects that the lid is opened while the master switch is on and for performing resumption of the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects that the lid is closed during the suspension of the power supply. As such, it is respectfully submitted that claim 1 is not anticipated by *Watanabe et al.*

It is respectfully submitted that *Matsumoto* fails to cure any deficiencies of the teachings of *Watanabe et al.* (assuming these references are combinable, which Applicant does not admit) as *Matsumoto* fails to teach this element as recited in claim 1. It is respectfully submitted that the invention of *Matsumoto* is directed to a small-sized information processor. *Matsumoto* discloses that where a power circuit is turned off when a media lid is opened, the power supply is not resumed when the media lid is subsequently closed.

It is respectfully submitted that claims 2 and 10 are allowable for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1 at least based upon their dependency on claim 1. It is further respectfully submitted that independent claims 11 and 16 contain elements similar to those discussed above with regard to claim 1 and, thus, claims 11 and 16,

together with claims dependent thereon, are allowable at least for the reasons set forth above with regard to claim 1.

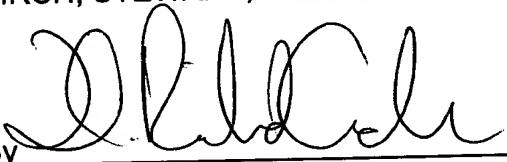
CONCLUSION

Should there be any outstanding matters that need to be resolved in the present application, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact Catherine M. Voisinet (Registration No. 52,327) at (703) 205-8000, to conduct an interview in an effort to expedite prosecution in connection with the present application.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Version With Markings to Show Changes Made



VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 3-9, 14, and 19 have been cancelled without prejudice or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein.

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging part for driving an imaging device to capture image data representing an image of a subject;

an external storage medium interface for writing the image data captured by the imaging part into an external storage medium;

a connector for detachably connecting the external storage medium to the external storage medium interface;

an external storage medium chamber for receiving the external storage medium connected to the external storage medium interface, the external storage medium chamber having an opening through which the external storage medium is received;

a lid for closing the opening of the external storage medium chamber;

a power supply part for supplying power to components of the camera;

a master switch for turning on and off the power supply part;

a detector for detecting [detachment and attachment of the external storage medium from and to the connector] that the lid is opened and closed; and

a controller for [suspending] performing suspension of a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects [the detachment of the external storage medium from the connector] that the lid is opened while the master switch is on, and for

[resuming] performing resumption of the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects [the attachment of the external storage medium to the connector] that the lid is closed during the suspension of the power supply.

10. (Amended) The electronic camera as defined in claim 1, wherein:

the controller has a timer for measuring elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended, and the controller turns off the master switch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time while the detector does not detect [the attachment of the external storage medium] that the lid is closed.

11. (Amended) An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging part for driving an imaging device to capture image data representing an image of a subject;

a connector for detachably connecting to an external storage medium;

an external storage medium interface for writing the image data captured by the imaging part into the external storage medium through the connector;

a power supply part for supplying power to components of the camera;

a master switch for turning on and off the power supply part;

a detector for detecting whether the connector is electrically connected to the external storage medium, and for detecting an operation[s] relating to detachment [and attachment of the external storage medium from and to the connector] of the external storage medium while the connector is electrically connected to the external storage medium; and

a controller for [suspending] performing suspension of a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the operation relating to the detachment of the external storage medium from the connector while the master switch is on, and for [resuming] performing resumption of the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects [the attachment of the external storage medium to the connector] that the connector is electrically connected to the external storage medium during the suspension of the power supply.

13. (Amended) The electronic camera as defined in claim 11, further comprising:

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber; and

a chamber mechanism for discharging the external storage medium from the chamber and receiving the external storage medium into the chamber;

wherein the detector detects the operation[s] relating to the detachment [and attachment] of the external storage medium by detecting an operation[s] of the chamber mechanism.

15. (Amended) The electronic camera as defined in claim 11, wherein:

the controller has a timer for measuring elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended, and the controller turns off the master switch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time while the detector does not detect [the attachment of the external storage medium] that the connector is electrically connected to the external storage medium.

16. (Amended) An electronic camera comprising:

an imaging part for driving an imaging device to capture image data representing an image of a subject;

a connector for detachably connecting to an external storage medium;

an external storage medium interface for writing the image data captured by the imaging part into the external storage medium through the connector;

a power supply part for supplying power to components of the camera;

a master switch for turning on and off the power supply part;

a detector for detecting a first operation[s] relating to detachment [and] of the external storage medium while the connector is electrically connected to the external storage medium, and a second operation relating to attachment of the external storage medium [from and to the connector]; and

a controller for [suspending] performing suspension of a power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the first operation [relating to the detachment of the external storage medium from the connector] while the master switch is on, and for [resuming] performing resumption of the power supply from the power supply part when the detector detects the second operation [relating to the attachment of the external storage medium to the connector] during the suspension of the power supply.

18. (Amended) The electronic camera as defined in claim 16, further comprising:

a chamber for containing the external storage medium, the connector being disposed in the chamber; and

a chamber mechanism for discharging the external storage medium from the chamber and receiving the external storage medium into the chamber;

wherein the detector detects the second operation[s relating to the detachment and attachment of the external storage medium] by detecting an operation[s] of the chamber mechanism.

20. (Amended) The electronic camera as defined in claim 16, wherein:

the controller has a timer for measuring elapsed time since the power supply from the power supply part is suspended, and the controller turns off the master switch when the elapsed time reaches a predetermined time while the detector does not detect [the attachment of the external storage medium] the second operation.